

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4597

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to allow for the deferment of certain student loans during a period in which a borrower is enrolled in a drug treatment program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 7, 2017

Mr. MACARTHUR (for himself, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Mr. FOSTER, and Mr. CARSON of Indiana) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to allow for the deferment of certain student loans during a period in which a borrower is enrolled in a drug treatment program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “College Loan
5 Deferment for Recovery Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. STUDENT LOAN DEFERMENT FOR BORROWERS EN-**

2 **ROLLED IN A DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAM.**

3 (a) DIRECT LOANS.—Section 455(f) of the Higher

4 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087e(f)) is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as

6 paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively; and

7 (2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-

8 lowing:

9 “(3) DEFERMENT FOR BORROWERS ENROLLED

10 IN A DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAM.—

11 “(A) EFFECT ON PRINCIPAL AND INTER-

12 EST.—A borrower of a loan made under this

13 part who meets the requirements of subparagraph

14 (B) shall be eligible for a deferment, dur-

15 ing which periodic installments of principal

16 need not be paid, and interest shall not accrue.

17 “(B) ELIGIBILITY.—A borrower of a loan

18 made under this part shall be eligible for a

19 deferment during—

20 “(i) any period in which such bor-

21 rower is enrolled in a drug treatment pro-

22 gram; and

23 “(ii) the 30 days after such period.

24 “(C) DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAM DE-

25 FINED.—In this paragraph, the term ‘drug

26 treatment program’ means a program certified

1 or licensed by a State to provide drug treat-
2 ment in the State.

3 “(D) APPLICABILITY.—This paragraph
4 shall apply with respect to loans—

5 “(i) made on or after the date of the
6 enactment of this paragraph; or

7 “(ii) in repayment on the date of the
8 enactment of this paragraph.”.

9 (b) TERMS OF FEDERALLY INSURED STUDENT
10 LOANS.—Section 427(a)(2)(C) of the Higher Education
11 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1077(a)(2)(C)) is amended—

12 (1) in clause (ii), by striking “; or” and insert-
13 ing a semicolon;

14 (2) in clause (iii), by inserting “or” after the
15 semicolon; and

16 (3) by inserting after clause (iii) the following:
17 “(iv) in which the borrower is enrolled
18 in a drug treatment program (as defined in
19 section 455(f)(3)(C)), and the 30 days
20 after such period.”.

21 (c) FFEL PROGRAM.—Section 428(b)(1)(M) of the
22 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1078(b)(1)(M))
23 is amended—

24 (1) in clause (iii), by striking “or (II); or” and
25 inserting “or (II);”;

1 (2) in clause (iv), by inserting “or” after the
2 semicolon; and

3 (3) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(v) during which the borrower is en-
5 rolled in a drug treatment program (as de-
6 fined in section 455(f)(3)(C)), and the 30
7 days after such period;”.

8 (d) FEDERAL PERKINS LOANS.—Section 464(c)(2)
9 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
10 1087dd(c)(2)) is amended—

11 (1) in subparagraph (A)—

12 (A) in clause (iv), by striking “; or” and
13 inserting a semicolon;

14 (B) in clause (v), by inserting “or” after
15 the semicolon; and

16 (C) by inserting after clause (v) the fol-
17 lowing:

18 “(vi) during which the borrower is enrolled in
19 a drug treatment program (as defined in section
20 455(f)(3)(C)), and the 30 days after such period;”.

21 (e) INTEREST ON UNSUBSUBSIDIZED STAFFORD
22 LOANS.—Section 428H(e)(2) of the Higher Education Act
23 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1078–8(e)(2)) is amended—

1 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “Interest”
2 and inserting, “Except as provided in subparagraph
3 (C), interest”; and

4 (2) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(C) Interest shall not accrue on a loan de-
6 ferred under section 428(b)(1)(M)(v) or
7 427(a)(2)(C)(iv).”.

8 (f) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this
9 Act shall apply with respect to loans—

10 (1) made on or after the date of the enactment
11 of this Act; or

12 (2) in repayment on the date of the enactment
13 of this Act.

